



**The Radio Amateur Society
of Australia**

July 2025

QTC



In This Issue

- RASA releases new Amateur Radio promotional material for clubs
- Omega Tower Remembered. Full story inside.
- Join the RASA team - opportunity inside
- PSK Reporter: the answer to "Am I Getting Out?"
- And more



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12	You are welcome to join RASA or simply make a donation to support our work.
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15	
18	Contributing Items For QTCMagazine
19	QTC Magazine welcomes contributions for future editions. When planning to submit an article, please read our submission guidelines first.
20	
23	Following the guidelines will save you and the editing team a lot of time and effort. The guidelines are HERE
24	



From the President

Paul VK2APA



A friend of mine sent me this AI generated poster expressing his thoughts on the FM repeaters in the Sydney area.



According to the ACMA's Register of Radiocommunications Licences there is just over 500 licenced Amateur Radio repeaters in Australia.

My personal experience with repeaters dates back to a time when the local repeater buzzed with activity every evening.

There were numerous enthusiastic Amateurs during that period, and the mobile communications we enjoy today seemed like a futuristic dream from Dick Tracy.

Upon returning to Amateur Radio, I noticed a significant decline in activity on



most repeaters, although a few remained lively.

What is their secret?

As technology moved forward, the declining user base was spread over the additional modes of Fusion, Dstar, and DMR, along with the improved connectivity of Echolink, AllStar Link etc.

A repeater represents a reasonable allocation of resources. This includes the necessary equipment and antennas, a tower (or access to one), licensing, electricity, potential internet connectivity, continuous maintenance, and time. Let's explore how we can achieve a return on this investment.

As an operator...

Many Radio Amateurs have multiple repeaters set to scan, so if you simply transmit a callsign and release the key two seconds later, they might miss your transmission. Even if they do hear you, they may not be able to identify which repeater you were using since the radio will be scanning again by the time they check. Therefore, make sure to say "listening on the [Callsign or repeater name] repeater" before you unkey.

Moreover, contrary to what many believe, a significant number of Amateurs are

actually quite shy and/or socially awkward, which can lead them to hesitate when answering calls from unfamiliar voices on the local repeaters.

You might want to ask for a radio check. Mention that you've just purchased a new radio, or installed a new antenna, etc. and are eager for a signal report. To keep the conversation going, try to speak for a few seconds on your own, allowing them a taste of what they can expect if they decide to respond. Asking for a radio check is a smart move because if someone is busy but still wants to be friendly and helpful, they can easily jump in and out of the conversation since it's merely a "radio check." If they're interested in a longer discussion, they can follow up with questions like, "What type of radio did you get?" etc.

If you're mobile, you can say something like "VK2APA is mobile, Southbound, on the M1, near Mt White, headed for Sydney, does anybody know where to get a good coffee in the area?".¹ Just giving a little something to keep the squelch open for a few seconds to give the scanners time to settle on you, and some little hint to get the conversation started.

Visit your local club. Many member are "lurkers" on the club repeater and are much more likely to call back somebody they know than a complete stranger. Participate in nets.

As a Repeater owner...

Clubs can make their repeater work for them by making them the hub of activities. Ideas include;

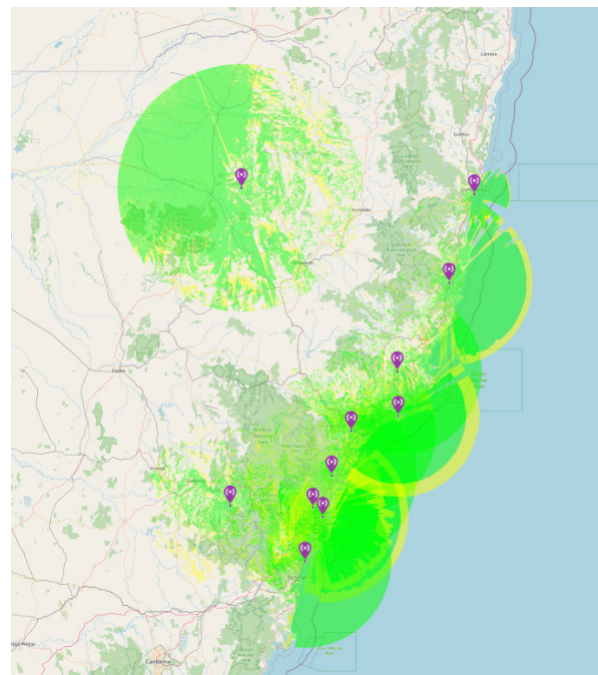
- A news broadcast to publicise events in your area. Ask for late breaking news and have callbacks

at the end as a way of engaging listeners. Consider relaying news from other clubs and groups.

- Scheduled nets, such as welfare, topic discussion, activates such as SSTV, or brainstorming the next club activity.
- Use your imagination!

Integration with [EchoLink](#) or [AllStarLink](#) systems gives your repeater more reach and also allows a repeater to participate in nets, nationally or globally. Tying several repeaters together gives wider coverage and gets a wider audience.

Consider upgrading to DMR. An initiative by Amateur Radio NSW, the RadNET digital radio network. <https://arnsw.net>



ARNSW has established a subcommittee called the Radio Network Group. This group's main objective is to create and manage a series of networked repeaters referred to as the ARNSW RadNET.

Consequently, ARNSW is providing material support, including repeaters and additional equipment, to local clubs to enable them to operate a repeater



service that integrates with the ARNSW RadNET.

The ARNSW RadNET DMR repeaters host the talkgroups of the VKDMR network, along with a specific ARNSW Talkgroup 1910. ARNSW aims for the RadNET DMR network to encompass the entire East coast of NSW and several important inland areas.

It will never be the same as it was before everybody had a mobile phone, but it's still a great hobby. If the fish aren't biting, maybe you just need to switch up your bait flavour a bit.

¹ The Old Road Cafe on the Old Pacific Highway at Mt White is a good place to stop for coffee and brunch. Popular with weekend bike riders and car enthusiasts.

Paul VK2APA is the President of RASA. He can be contacted by email to president@vkradioamateurs.org

Ask your club president to invite Paul, along with some RASA team members, to make an online presentation to your club. The meeting can be arranged using RASA's ZOOM account.

The collage features several elements: a large yellow box on the left with the text 'RASA Needs Your Support'; a RASA logo with the tagline 'The Radio Amateur Society of Australia'; a 'Foundation Level Study Guide' image showing a person at a radio; a 'QTC' magazine cover with the headline 'Your Gateway to the World of Amateur Radio'; a 'QRM.guru' logo with the text 'Resolving interference for Amateur Radio'; a 'Welcome to Amateur Radio' image with the text 'A Guidebook for newcomers'; a 'A Free Amateur Radio Learning Resource' box with a description of a multimedia learning resource; a blue box with the text 'Click Here to Donate or Pay membership'; and a large blue box at the bottom left with the text 'RASA PRODUCES HUGE RESULTS FROM A TINY BUDGET.' and a list of services: 'Foundation Level Study Guide', 'QTC Magazine', 'QRM Guru,', 'VKRegs', and 'Representation to Government'. A yellow arrow points from the 'RASA PRODUCES HUGE RESULTS FROM A TINY BUDGET.' text to the list of services.

RASA Needs Your Support

RASA PRODUCES HUGE RESULTS FROM A TINY BUDGET.

- Foundation Level Study Guide
- QTC Magazine
- QRM Guru,
- VKRegs
- Representation to Government

Foundation Level Study Guide

QTC

Your Gateway to the World of Amateur Radio

Amateur Radio provides virtually unlimited opportunities for you to explore the technical, scientific and social aspects of this truly global hobby.

QRM.guru

Resolving interference for Amateur Radio

Welcome to Amateur Radio

A Guidebook for newcomers

A Free Amateur Radio Learning Resource

This multimedia learning resource has been developed by RASA and is provided free of charge.

Click Here to Donate or Pay membership

RASA relies on member fees and donations, so that we can offer our resources free to everyone. We're inviting you to sign up or renew your membership, or simply donate. You can do this at our website: vkradioamateurs.org

From the Editor



Happy new financial year, although not for everyone. I've noticed that some clubs utilise the British financial year April to April. Why, who knows? But it doesn't really matter. What really matters is your club's governance.

Governance is not about making up a whole bunch of silly, restrictive rules that bind your committee into a quagmire of satisfying these unnecessary rules. There are sufficient safeguards built in by law that require accountable reporting by not for profits to their members. So please refrain from bogging down your AGM as a substitute for your due diligence throughout the year.

But happy new year anyway.

In this issue of QTC, RASA is launching a new brochure designed to be used where Amateur Radio clubs are interfacing with the public. The brochure is by no means designed as a "shove it into their hands and send them away" publication.

RASA has for some time considered how to engage members of the public who show even a passing interest in a club's display, activity, sausage sizzle at Bunnings and so forth.

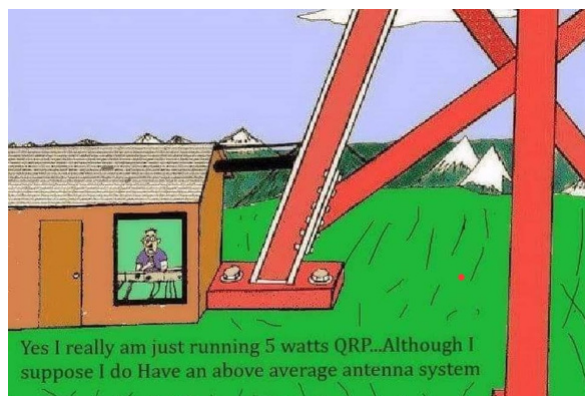
The brochure is designed as a takeaway to give to a person who shows some degree of interest in the hobby, and who has already been engaged in a conversation with those operating the stall or activity. The brochure is a "where next" for the curious.

In formulating ideas for the brochure, we made a fresh slogan for our promotional material - "Radio for the Curious and Creative", pictured below.

In doing so, we have retired the old "Being Heard is Important" slogan, which has served RASA and Amateur Radio well since RASA's formation. We have heard you, and we have been heard. And that will continue.

You will see in this issue that we're recruiting for the editorial team. Are you interested? It's not easy, deadlines are always messed up, and who's going to sweep the cutting room floor? But if you're thinking about becoming involved, think about it, and contact us by [EMAIL](#).

Our volunteers are required to agree to a confidentiality agreement and RASA's Code of Conduct. That's how we assure our credibility.



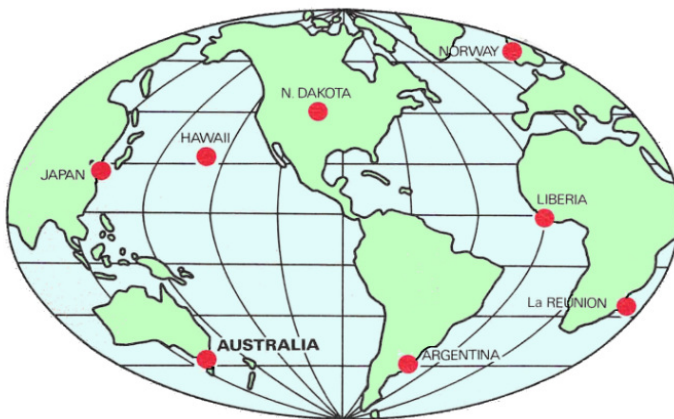
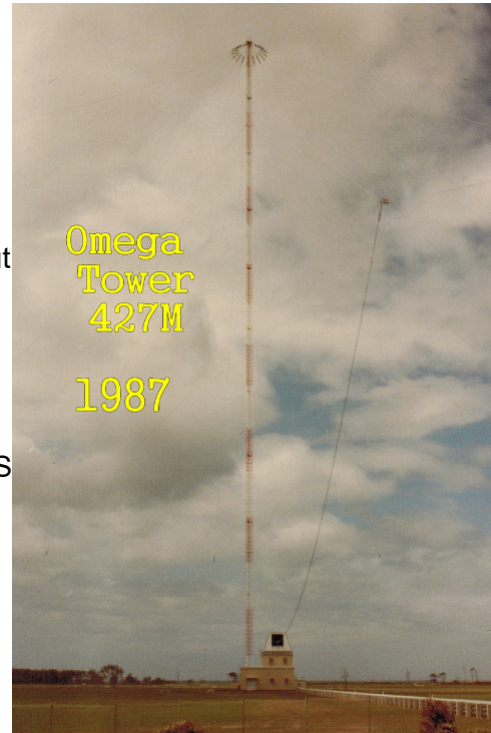
Radio for the Curious & Creative

The Radio Amateur Society of Australia

Remembering Omega

Many readers will remember Australia's contribution to the worldwide Omega Navigation System. Many more have probably never heard of it – until now. First activated in 1971 the Omega system featured a group of eight transmitter sites located in different parts of the world. One of these sites was located near the town of Sale in Eastern Victoria. There are many unique aspects of this system worth knowing about.

- The site had the tallest man-made structure in Australia at that time. It was a guyed tower 427 metres high
- The transmitter operated with a high 150 kW output
- It operated on very low frequencies between 10 and 13 kHz.
- Its pulsed transmissions were synchronised with the other 7 stations around the world using atomic clocks.
- Decca, a British company successfully sued the US Government for \$44 million in 1976 because they had stolen the English design for the network.



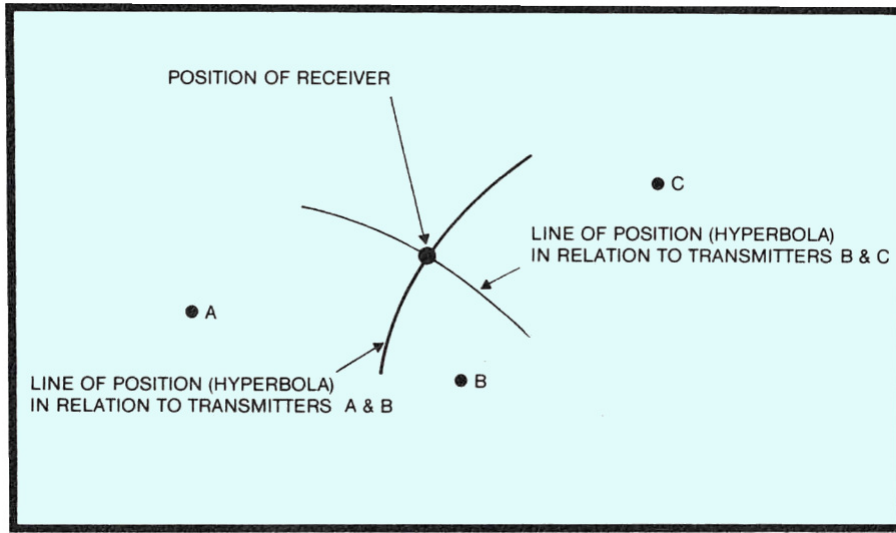
In addition to Australia, transmitters were located in Norway, Liberia, Hawaii, North Dakota, La Reunion, Argentina and Japan. A special receiver was needed to receive and decode the transmission sequences and calculate the location of the receive station.

By today's standards, the accuracy of the network was not great, providing about 4 kilometre resolution. The network was shut down for navigation in 1997 when GPS systems made it largely redundant. It remained in service for several more years as a part of a submarine communications network

April 2025 saw the 10th anniversary since the demolition of the antenna system by explosive charges. This spectacular demolition can be seen as a YouTube clip at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=CqWAI_jYc2w

How Omega worked

The system was quite clever. Each transmitter would send a series of bursts on different frequencies in a cycle that repeated every 10 seconds. The power levels were so great on an extremely low part of the spectrum, that a receiver anywhere in the world should pick up enough signals from a minimum of 3 stations to figure out the receiver location. If two transmitters were heard, a parabolic arc line could be calculated between those two points. If two more transmitters could be identified a second line could be calculated that would intersect with the first line. (One of the second pair transmitters could be from the first pair) The intersection of the resultant two lines would provide a current location as a Latitude and Longitude coordinate.



As each transmitter station included a radio burst on a frequency that was unique to that station, a receiver could always figure out which station was transmitting at any moment in time. The transmitter stations had to accurately synchronise their transmissions into the correct slots, so a very stable caesium beam clock was used at each site.

Segment		1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8
Station									
NORWAY (A)		10.2	13.6	11.1/3	12.1	12.1	11.05	12.1	12.1
LIBERIA (B)		12.0	10.2	13.6	11.1/3	12.0	12.0	11.05	12.0
HAWAII (C)		11.8	11.8	10.2	13.6	11.1/3	11.8	11.8	11.05
NORTH DAKOTA (D)		11.05	13.1	13.1	10.2	13.6	11.1/3	13.1	13.1
LA REUNION (E)		12.3	11.05	12.3	12.3	10.2	13.6	11.1/3	12.3
ARGENTINA (F)		12.9	12.9	11.05	12.9	12.9	10.2	13.6	11.1/3
AUSTRALIA (G)		11.1/3	13.0	13.0	11.05	13.0	13.0	10.2	13.6
JAPAN (H)		13.6	11.1/3	12.8	12.8	11.05	12.8	12.8	10.2

10 SECONDS

COMMON FREQUENCIES
 UNIQUE FREQUENCIES

OMEGA Radionavigation System Signal Transmission Format

Even though the tower was 427 metres high, at these low frequencies, that antenna was still only a small portion of a wavelength. A full wavelength on 13 KHz is about 23 kilometres, meaning a true quarter wave ground plane antenna would have been a little over 5 kilometres high. Such air pressure is similar to the Tibetan Plateau, about half that of the air pressure at sea level, where potato chip bags look like party balloons, but the air is still breathable.



Such heights would have significant construction challenges, so to shorten the antenna a unique Helix coil with smaller switchable sub-coils called 'variometers' formed a base-loaded antenna tuning unit. The tower had sixteen insulated guy wires at the top and 18 more guys at lower levels.

There was a 150 kW Duty and Standby transmitter at each site to permit no-break operation during service times, but because of antenna inefficiency, only about 10 kW was radiated. As the radio frequency is also within the audio frequency range of human hearing, the frequency hops of each transmitter cycle could be heard by visitors to the transmitter site.

Some statistics about the Sale transmitter site

- The site was approximately 1.6 x 1.8 kilometres in area.
- The triangular tower was 3.6 metres wide per side, weighing approximately 400 tonnes.
- The antenna required an Earth Mat consisting of buried copper wires, 340 metres long at 10° intervals. This meant that 12.2 kilometres of copper had to be buried at the site.
- Closer to the mast copper mesh was buried and bonded to the radial mat. All metal items on-site had to be electrically bonded to the Earth Mat, including fences and storm water guttering in buildings.
- There was a 150 kW 'Dummy Load' room where a transmitter could be tested off-air.
- A V12 diesel 500 kVA generator provided backup power at the site.
- Construction required 1250 cubic metres of concrete.
- Complete schematic diagrams of all supporting electronics, mostly 74 series TTL are available in the public domain.

This unique project was an important part of Australia's communications technology and while it no longer exists, its memory is worthy of preservation.

Did you enjoy this historical story? QTC Welcomes contributions of articles, and if you have an historical item, a story about an activity that you participated in, or anything of interest to Radio Amateurs, send it to us. With photos too, of course.

Please look at the information for contributors on page two before you start writing.

Editor.

THIS IS AMATEUR RADIO

thisisamateurradio.com

This month we updated the introduction portion of the site to include a better description of what Amateur Radio has to offer. Also included is a segment on the ACMA role in gaining operator qualifications, including QR code links. <https://thisisamateurradio.com/>

The most exciting addition to the This Is Amateur Radio site is the inclusion of a 'How to use this site' with a description of the tile coding and a new keyword search feature.

An input box invites the viewer to enter a key word and press *search*. The algorithm will search all of the sub-pages on the site for relevant content and generate a synopsis may be example the was used .

HOW TO USE THIS SITE

It's easy to use. Each tile represents a topic of study or an activity to pursue. Click on a tile to open a summary of that tile, then follow the links provided for greater detail on the topic.

- Foundation Topics** The **BLUE** tiles show the examinable content for the **Foundation Level** qualification.
- Standard Topics** **YELLOW** tiles reveal more content for the **Standard Level** of qualification. (under development)
- Advanced Topics** The **GREEN** tiles provide a pathway to the **Advanced Level** qualification. (under Development)
- Activities & Studies** The **GREY** tiles detail the full range of experiences that Amateur Radio has to offer.

Another great way to explore this site is to Search by a key word of interest.

You can also click on the button below to view every page on this site as a list.

Search results

P70 Identifying Coaxial Connectors P70 Identifying Coaxial Connectors Common Connector Types Coaxial cables require specific types of connectors. You must...	P208 Antenna Rotator Systems P208 Antenna Rotator Systems Need for Antenna Rotators Better signals on any part of the spectrum...	P199 Tower and mast installations P199 Tower & Mast Installations What makes a Tower? An important part of any Amateur Radio...
P253 Constructing a HF Curtain Array P253 Constructing a HF Curtain Array	P246 Mobile Antennas P246 Mobile Antennas Amateur radio antennas for vehicles are a difficult	P3 The Advanced Syllabus P3 Note: This Advanced Syllabus is in

page of tiles that useful. In this key word 'coax'

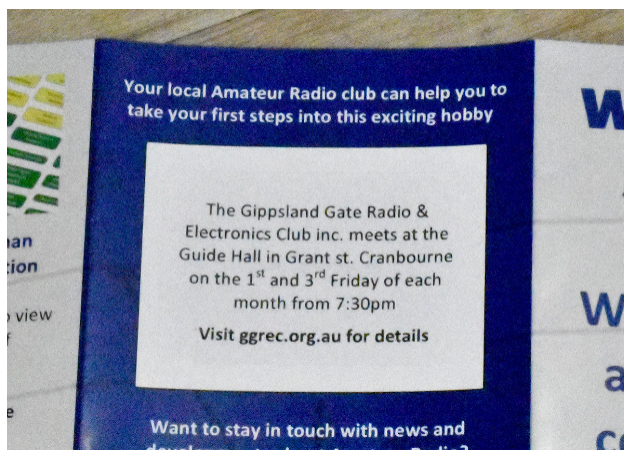
A New RASA Resource - a Brochure

RASA is pleased to announce the availability of a new brochure to promote Amateur Radio. This is a general-purpose flyer for any club or group promoting Amateur Radio available at no cost.

Whenever a group is promoting the hobby in a public space, they can have some of these folded brochures at hand to provide to curious onlookers.



Even though it is good for Amateurs to have a friendly discussion about what we do, it helps to give the person something to take away with them for later consideration.



The brochure has 6 panels. It describes the concept of operating radio for sport and outdoor activity. There is a synopsis of the different qualification levels and exam process. It highlights the growing technology behind the hobby and provides an introduction to the *This Is Amateur Radio* site as an educational resource and a way to learn more about what Amateurs can do.

A section has been left blank to accommodate a standard printed label which contains details of where and

when your local club meets.

This brochure will be made available to all clubs as a free resource to assist in the promotion of our hobby. Some samples will be distributed to clubs over the coming months.

If your club would like to obtain some of these, just send an email request to info@vkradioamateurs.org.



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Here's How:

- Create a Block Advertisement 160mm wide, 110mm High. This will give you a half page advertisement like this.
 - Save it as a PDF
 - Send it to info@vkradioamateurs.org by 1st of the month
 - Re-send it (modified if you wish) every month as needed
- In addition you may wish to contribute a story about your forthcoming event to complement your advertisement.

Resources for New Amateurs



Your Gateway to the World of Amateur Radio

Amateur Radio provides virtually unlimited opportunities for you to explore the technical, scientific and social aspects of this truly global hobby

Like all RASA resources, the FLSG is free, and we encourage you to share it with your club, friends and others who may be interested in becoming a radio amateur.

This resource is backed up by our other award-winning resources, including QRM Guru, the Welcome to Amateur Radio Guidebook, and VKRegs.

This resource is unique. Not only is it up-to-date with the latest information on the Class Licence, but it includes tailored instructional videos, links to useful websites, and extra “good to know” learning opportunities. All of this is backed up by a Knowledge Base with an integrated email-based helpdesk. So if you have feedback or questions, you can easily raise a ticket.

The FLSG is available [HERE](#)

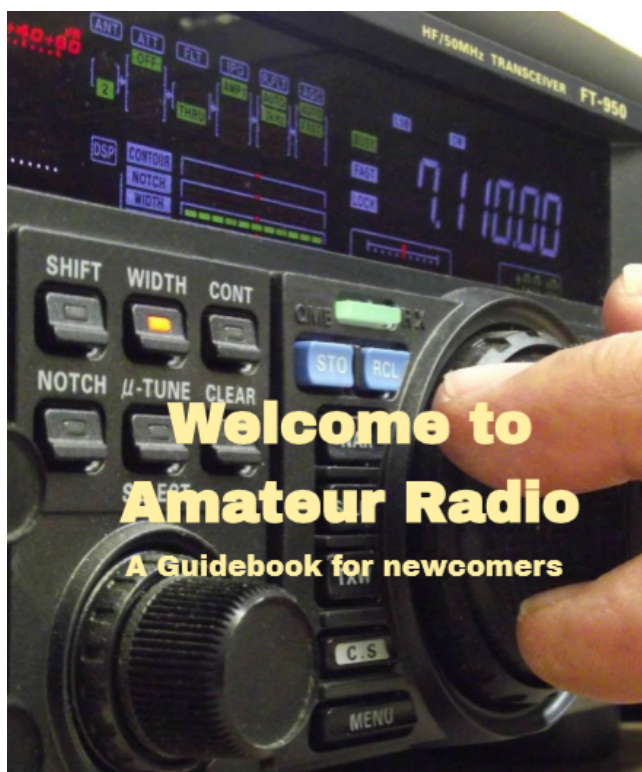


The RASA Welcome to Amateur Radio Guidebook provides an introduction to our hobby for new Foundation class amateurs.

The book is published digitally. It contains many hotlinks to external websites with useful information.

It is available as an Acrobat pdf file suitable for reading on a PC or tablet. It can be printed if required.

Download the guidebook [HERE](#).





Dits n Dahs

By Chris VK3QB

This month some hints 'n tips on improving your morse code. Following a standard protocol makes it easier to build confidence. You know in advance what you're going to send, and that will give a pretty good idea of what the other operator will send. We use the term "Boilerplate QSOs" to describe some round standards that you can use.

Boilerplate QSOs

Boilerplate QSOs. You may have heard this term. It refers to a series of standard exchanges that are common to most basic QSOs. Boilerplate QSOs provide a standard exchange making it easier on both parties. They are a great way to build your confidence when starting out in CW. They help immensely as you build your conversational QSO confidence.

Remember your Amateur Radio practical exam? If this happened in the last 20 years you would have been asked to have a voice QSO – using phonetics, exchanging callsigns, basic information about your station, and so on. It's really not that different with Morse Code, other than the short-hand that's used.

The information provided in this document is not exhaustive. Its purpose is to provide an overview of the basics to assist new CW operators to get on-air with confidence. Quite a few topics are covered in basic detail. There is much more reading and learning that will follow.

Consider creating your own cheat sheet based on your experience and preferences. You want to develop your own style; these are guidelines. Please use them as such. Highlight your text to make it easy.

Download this Boilerplate QSO Guide, and consider making your own cheat sheet. You'll need to scroll down a little once you click on [the link](#).

On a personal note, I got new finger pieces for my Begali Sculpture Paddle this month. The new alloy perforated red finger pieces look great, for sure!





Monthly VK/ZL Morse Zoom Sessions

Are you new to the code? Maybe you're working on developing your skills, or coming back and picking up a lost skill? Or maybe you just love the code and would like to join in.

I am convening a monthly Zoom session for Morse Code operators with support from CW Ops and RASA. The next session is on the 21st July at 0830Z. Our guest will be Pete Millis M3KXZ, a regular portable operator, regularly working VK and ZL long path. Read more about this initiative and how to join here:

<https://morsecodesessions.wordpress.com/about/>

If you have any questions or suggestions please drop me an email. vk3qb(@)hotmail.com

LETTER TO THE EDITOR

This from Tim EI8IC

Greetings from Ireland,

Just a note to say that it would have been nice if, on page 29 of the June 2025 edition of QTC, you had acknowledged the original source of the Maidenhead Locator map as being from my website:

<https://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/maps/gridworld.php>

You might also have mentioned my 'Time Mapper UHD' programme, which is one of the few programs that will show a world map of Grid Squares in an ADIF log, or in a UDP or TCP live feed from a logging program, or from a PSK Reporter live feed. See attached images. (images are on the following page. Ed.)

Also: <https://www.mapability.com/ei8ic/tmu/screenshots.php>

PS thanks for a great magazine, as always!

73s Tim EI8IC

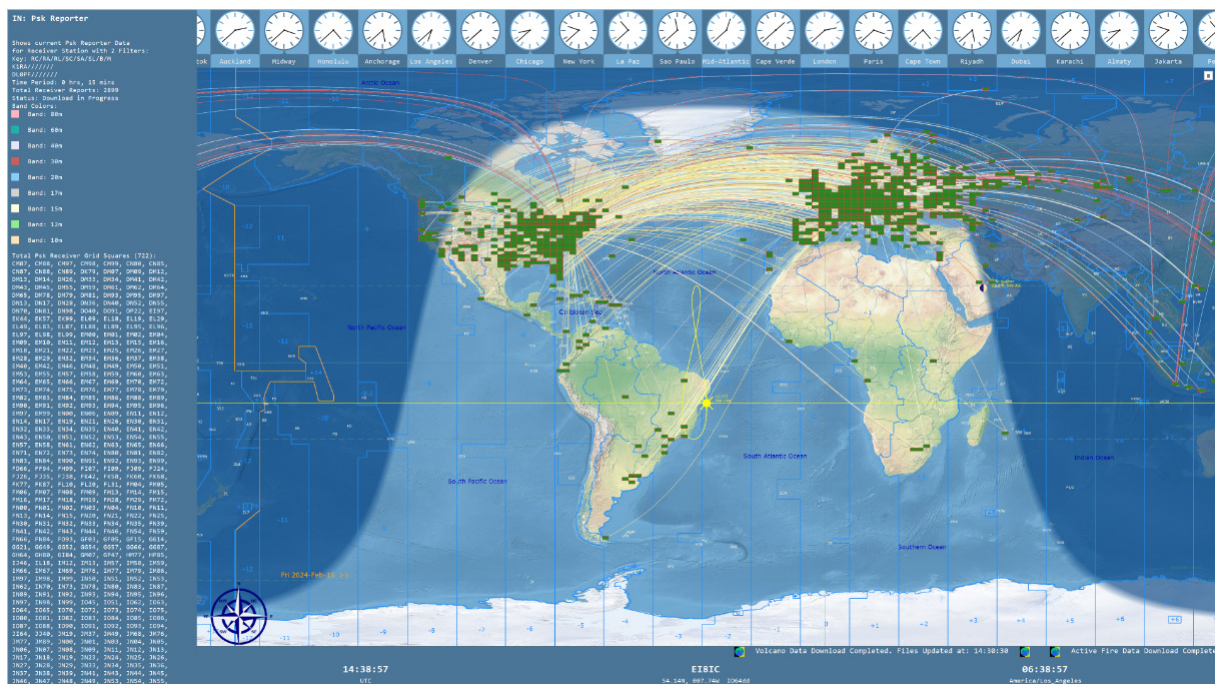
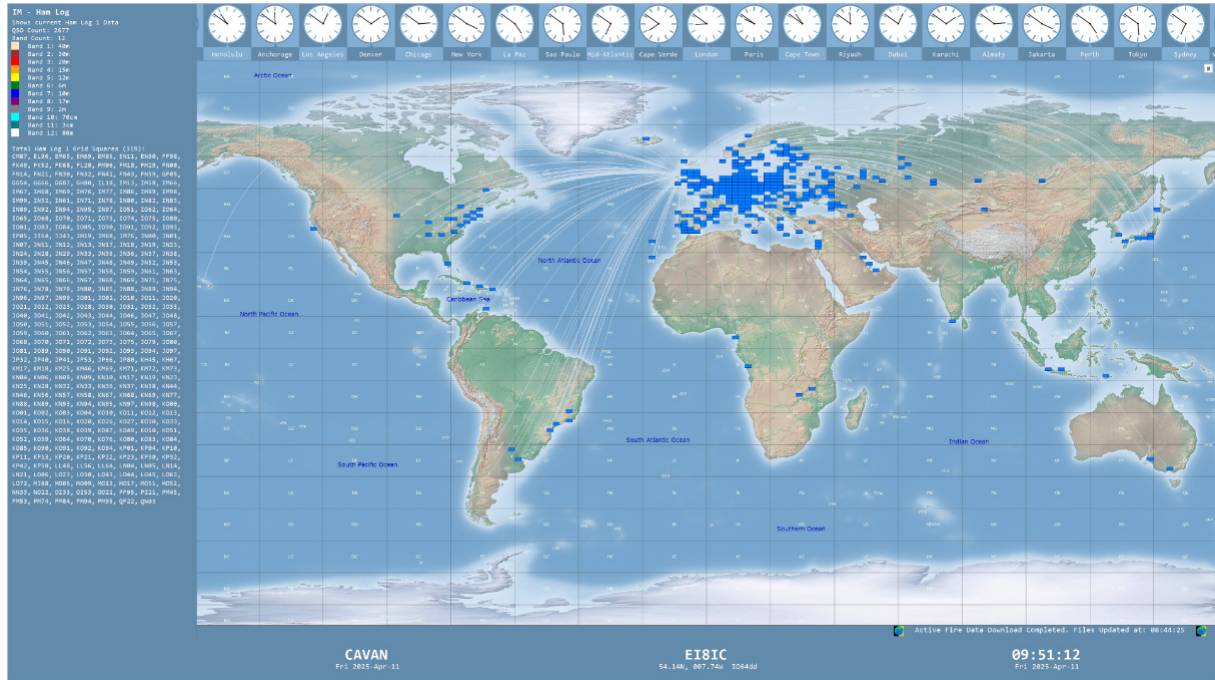
hi Tim

Thanks for letting us know - and apologies for omitting acknowledgement. I found the map in a hurry searching Google Images, both to show what it looks like and to fill the page !

I'll make a note in the QTC July edition - because we do sometimes harvest other people's work and acknowledgment is important.

Thanks for reading and appreciating QTC.

Editor.



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Job Vacancy at QTC

The Editorial Team at QTC are looking for new members. QTC is published monthly, and all of the desktop publishing is done in-house.

Like the poor fellow in the picture, you will have to be able to work to timelines and deadlines, and to be able to obtain completed work from authors in a timely manner without actually harming them.

It's one of the universe's constant struggles, and you will have to be able to manage it whilst still maintaining your sanity and work/life balance. Good luck with that one!



But seriously now....

RASA is seeking people to join the Editorial team. The primary function of the team is to produce the monthly QTC magazine, although other editorial or publications tasks may come your way.

We are seeking people who:

- Can demonstrate a commitment to RASA and its values, and are prepared to agree to RASA's code of conduct
- Have a good command of English grammar and spelling - you'll be checking and editing other people's work
- Have a basic understanding of and skills in desktop publishing, and are willing to learn and develop these
- Have a reliable internet connection and their own I.T. equipment
- Are able to work in an online shared environment (we use Google Workspace), and is willing to learn and develop these skills.
- Is prepared to monitor and respond to emails at least daily, as the distributed member nature of our committees makes regular email use essential.

Interested? Contact RASA by email info@vkradioamateurs.org to discuss.

RASA's Annual General Meeting is on Saturday 6th September



**The meeting will be held on the ZOOM online
platform at 0000 hours UTC**

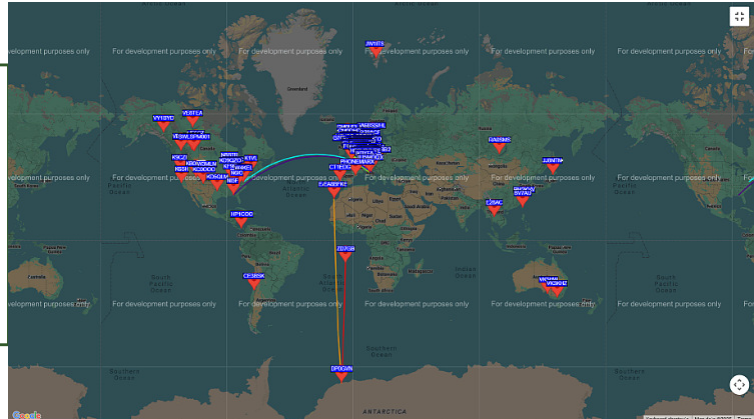
**Formal notice will be sent to members via email.
Not a member of RASA? Sign up [HERE](#)**

Can anyone hear me?

Have you seen those clever maps put up by Amateurs that show how their signals reached several countries? You know the ones, where the person's QTH is the centre, and all these lines are drawn across the map, using different colours for the bands displayed? Do you wonder how these maps are produced? One thing is for certain, the Amateur did not sit up all night drawing the map. The maps were produced by a clever piece of software called "PSK Reporter"

This map is from the WSPRNET.org website. It's interactive, so you can set parameters for display.

For this map I chose the 60 metre band to give an uncluttered view.



Before you run off to the app store looking for it, PSK Reporter is not a standalone app. It is far more clever than that. PSK Reporter provides the means for software developers to include code that will pass on received "CQ" calls to the PSK Reporter website, which receives and displays data sent by monitoring stations.

PSK Reporter is an amateur radio signal reporting and spotting network and website started by Philip Gladstone in 2014, which allows operators to see where their radio signals are being received. The platform works by collecting digital signal reports from software clients such as WSJT-X and FLDIGI, then mapping them to show which stations are being heard by other clients.

[104 spots] 103 to 0
database search time was 0.084048974 secs

Table options find duplicates Saved searches

Navigation...

▲ status ->
** Click table cells for more info. **

y-m-d local	txCall	txGrid	rxCall	rxGrid	MHz	W	SNR	drift	k	txAz°	mode	k/W	spotQ	version
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	VK6TCP	OF88ui	7.040057	2	-19	0	2834	283	WSPR2	1417	648	web-888
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	VK6QA	QH22xo	7.040054	2	-33	0	2676	357	WSPR2	1338	76	2.7.0
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	VK4DL/SDR1	QG49ho	7.040056	2	-18	0	2344	4	WSPR2	1172	569	v1.2.87
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	VK4DL/SDR2	QG49ho	7.04005	2	-18	0	2344	4	WSPR2	1172	569	v1.2.87
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	K1VL	FN33om	7.040057	2	-20	0	16758	72	WSPR2	8379	3591	v1.2.87
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	WA7LNW	DM37gd	7.040056	2	-26	0	13318	65	WSPR2	6659	1712	RP122-16
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	WZ7I	FN20kk	7.040054	2	-18	0	16493	77	WSPR2	8247	4006	CWSL_DIGI
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	WA3TTS	EN90xn	7.04006	2	-26	0	16099	75	WSPR2	8050	2070	2.6.1
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	VE3EID	FN05gk	7.040071	2	-22	0	16274	67	WSPR2	8137	3022	CWSL_DIGI
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	KB7GF	DN06ta	7.040069	2	-26	0	13464	54	WSPR2	6732	1731	WD_3.2.3
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	W1CK	DM13ie	7.040056	2	-26	0	12786	67	WSPR2	6393	1644	WD_3.2.3-1
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	ZL2005SWL	RE68mx	7.040056	2	-17	0	2153	97	WSPR2	1077	554	WD_3.3.2-1
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	AC0G/B2	EM38ww	7.040056	2	-26	0	15068	73	WSPR2	7534	1937	WD_3.3.2-1
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	KD7EFG-1	DN31uo	7.040056	2	-25	0	13654	61	WSPR2	6827	1951	WD_3.1.7
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	W1BW	FN54nh	7.040057	2	-26	0	17081	72	WSPR2	8541	2196	
2025-07-06 20:34	VK7ZAB	QE38on	N8GA-1	EN80ee	7.040056	2	-28	0	15797	74	WSPR2	7899	1580	WD_3.3.2-1



The website takes its name from the popular amateur radio digital mode PSK31 and supports numerous digital modes, but now the vast majority of digital modes recorded by the service are FT8 traffic. Most traffic recorded on PSK Reporter is in the HF amateur radio bands but the platform also supports MF, VHF, and UHF bands. As of 2021 PSK Reporter had collected over 20 billion reception reports. (Wikipedia). On 7th July 2025 the online counter read 58.5 billion, increasing at a rate of 246 per second. Explore the site for yourself at pskreporter.info.

Digimode Automatic Propagation Reporter

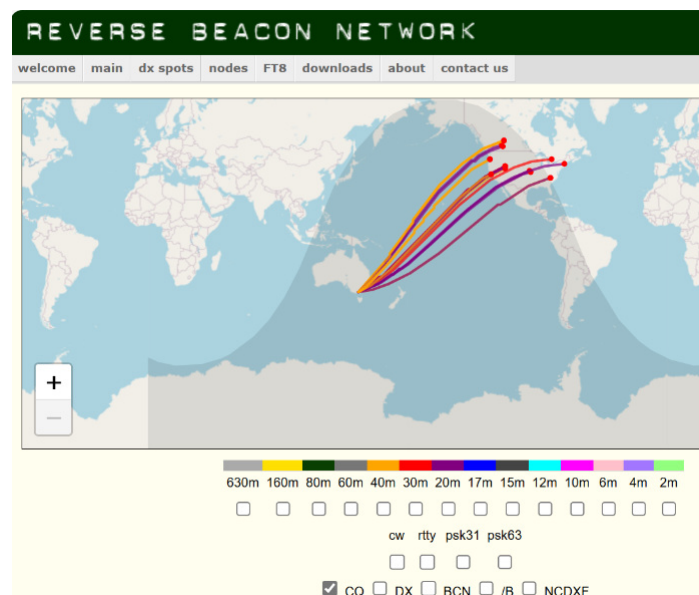
This started out as a project to automatically gather reception records of digimode activity and then make those records available in near real time to interested parties — typically the amateur who initiated the communication. The way that it works is that many amateurs will run a client that will monitor received traffic for callsigns (the pattern 'de callsign callsign') and, when seen, will report this fact.

This is of interest to the amateur who transmitted and they will be able to see where their signal was received. The pattern chosen is typically part of a standard CQ call. The duplicate check is to make sure that the callsign is not corrupted. The rules for protocols like FT8 are different as the callsigns are protected by error correction. You do still need to call CQ in order for your signal to be reported.

The way that this would be used is that an amateur would call CQ and could then (within a few minutes) see where their signal was received. This can be useful in determining propagation conditions or in adjusting antenna and/or radio parameters. It also provides a scientific archive of reception records that is being used for ionospheric research purposes.

There is a [map display](#) of this information.

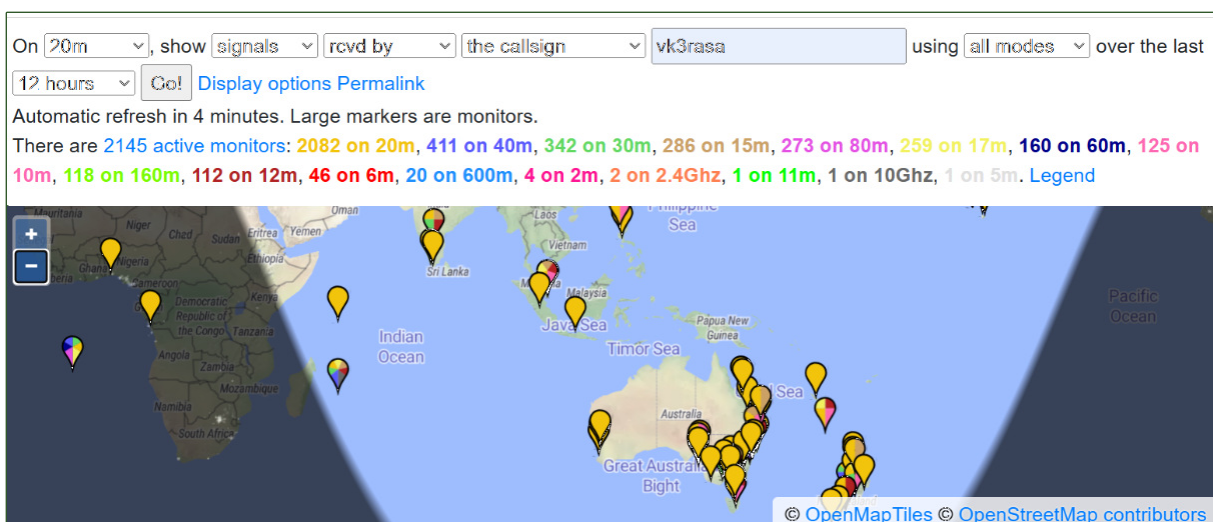
There is also a page of [statistics](#) about the project.



Note: This system does not transmit any signals over the air, it just makes use of existing signals that are being transmitted by people calling CQ. This approach is different to some other propagation reporting tools, and has the advantage that adding more monitoring stations provides better coverage without consuming any bandwidth. Also, you don't need to have an amateur radio license to participate. All that is needed is an antenna, a radio and a computer, and you can start monitoring. You will need to pick a 'callsign' to send in reports under — pick something with your country prefix on it, such as W/SWL/BOSTON for US, shortwave listener in Boston.

Current Uses

Many of the monitoring stations like to use this for bragging rights. It is also interesting to see how long it takes to spot 100 different countries. (A well placed



[Statistics](#) — [Comments to Philip Gladstone](#) — [Online discussions](#) — Reception records: 58,520,698,676 (264/sec) — Hosting by [Fast Serv Networks, LLC](#)

PSKREPORTER.INFO

station with a decent antenna can do this within a week of monitoring, but the best systems can do it within a single day).

The data being gathered also includes more than just PSK spots, it includes JT65 and FT8 -- with FT8 the overwhelming majority at the moment. PSK Reporter is also used by WSPR and the Reverse Beacon Network.

Sources:

Images courtesy of Chris VK3QB

Material sourced from pskreporter.info used with permission from Philip Gladstone N1DQ, and

Wikipedia under Wikipedia Commons

<https://pskreporter.info/>

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/PSK_Reporter

VK3RASA REVERSE BEACON NETWORK

Located in Drouin West, Victoria, Australia.



**The Radio Amateur Society
of Australia**

RASA DX Contest

It's not too late to enter the RASA DX Contest, even though we're halfway through the year. Read on to find out why.



**The Radio Amateur Society
of Australia**

The objective of this contest is to encourage greater participation and activity on the MF, HF and 6 metre bands. The contest is deliberately designed as a long form event, as many amateurs are unavailable for the more traditional contests held on weekends.

DX Contest 2025

It also provides the opportunity for those who like to operate in a more relaxed fashion to still take part in a national contest. This also allows amateurs the opportunity to use their 2×1 Contest Callsigns, a great way to attract the interest of international stations.

The simple rules and how to enter are listed [HERE](#).

You must use ClubLog for scoring, and instructions are on the RASA website.

Participation Award:

RASA encourages you to have a go. So long as you meet the minimum entry criteria, you will go into the draw for some great Participation Prizes. Last year we had a Rig Expert Antenna Analyser valued at \$350 This year it's a Zachtech WSPR Tx valued at \$230

PARTICIPATION Thresholds & Prizes: All QSOs from 1 January 2025 to 31 December 2025. To be eligible for participation prizes you must meet the minimum QSO and DXCC criteria.

CW Minimum Threshold: A minimum of 200 QSOs and a minimum of 25 DXCC.

Digital Minimum Threshold: 500 QSOs and a minimum of 50 DXCC.

SSB Minimum Threshold: 300 QSOs and a minimum of 25 DXCC.

Mixed Minimum Threshold: 400 QSOs and 50 DXCC – this will be for the more casual ops who like multi-mode operation.

These criteria apply for entry to the event, inclusion in the draw for the participation prizes and First Place Plaques.

Participation Prizes: Major prize available to all participants – to be advised

Prize for CW Category – Morse Paddle valued at \$350 (pictured right)

Plaques: There will be plaques for the winner of each category. Please direct any queries to Chris VK3QB vk3qb(@) hotmail.com

If you need to know more, gGo to the RASA website vkradioamateurs.org

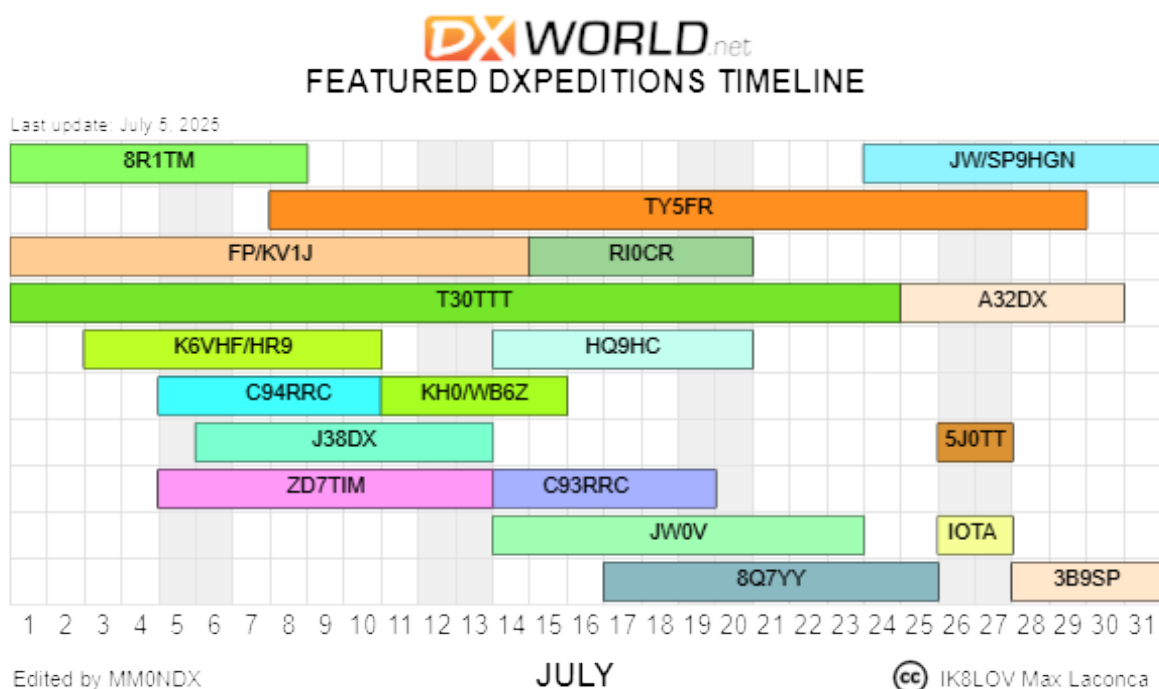


DX Happenings

Powered by ICOM®



We start with the usual monthly report from DX-World. Click the image for more info.



New to Dxing? Have you discovered clusters? They are very useful.

A Cluster is a web based facility where a listener can “spot” a signal they have either heard or worked. These are useful when you’re wondering which direction the DX is running. A timely spot on the cluster will direct operators to your call. Be prepared for the pileup.

Spotter	Freq.	DX	Time	Info	Country
IZ5 ILV	7125.0	125RRC	07:36 07 Jul	D7MDA 100RMS	Italy
K4JEL @	7074.0	K3J	07:36 07 Jul	13 COL MC FTB	United States
VK3VBC @	14186.0	14V40E	07:36 07 Jul	loud in vk3	Spain
IK1UGX	7090.0	150M110032P	07:36 07 Jul	PC1A110032 NEW ONE	Sardinia
VK2JUM	14075.2	14V11FQ	07:36 07 Jul		Japan
CN2DX @	18071.0	11160CBL	07:36 07 Jul	CORRECT	Switzerland
IK1UGX @	7090.0	150M110032P	07:36 07 Jul	PC1A110032 NEW ONE	Sardinia
VK3OP @	10136.0	14V11FQ	07:32 07 Jul	Trux new one Cerand	Martinique

DX Watch- <https://www.dxwatch.com/>

DX Summit - <http://www.dxsummit.fi/#/>



2025 ANNUAL VKFF NATIONAL GET TOGETHER

2025 VKFF NATIONAL GET TOGETHER



**FRIDAY 24TH, SATURDAY 25TH, SUNDAY 26TH
& MONDAY 27TH OCTOBER 2025**

AT CANBERRA, ACT.

THE EVENT WILL INCLUDE:

- FRIDAY EVENING DINNER – THE LIGHTHOUSE PUB, BELCONNEN
- GUEST SPEAKERS & DISPLAYS ON VKFF/WWFF DURING THE DAY ON SATURDAY AT THE EASTLAKE FOOTBALL CLUB, GRIFFITH.
- RAFFLE WITH VARIOUS PRIZES
- SATURDAY EVENING DINNER FUNCTION, INCLUDING A GUEST SPEAKER AT THE EASTLAKE FOOTBALL CLUB
- SUNDAY MORNING BBQ BREAKFAST AT BLACK MOUNTAIN BBQ AREA, ANTENNA BUILDING PROJECT, FOLLOWED BY NUMEROUS VKFF PARK ACTIVATIONS ON SUNDAY IN THE CANBERRA REGION
- SUNDAY EVENING DINNER – GUNGHALIN LAKES GOLF CLUB
- CANBERRA TOUR OPTIONS ON MONDAY

**FORMAL REGISTRATON, COST AND ADDITIONAL INFORMATION
CAN BE FOUND ON THE WWFF AUSTRALIA WEBSITE.**

<https://www.wwffaustralia.com/2025-national-get-together.html>



YOU MUST REGISTER TO ATTEND – WALK UPS WILL NOT BE ACCEPTED.



Ham College provides excellence in Amateur Radio Education in Western Australia, conducting courses and assessments for all grades of Australian amateur radio qualification.

The next Foundation course is scheduled for the weekend of the 2nd/3rd of August 2025, and the next exams session is on 9th August.

If you're considering enrolment for a course or exams, you can express your interest at the ["Contact Page"](#) of the Ham College website. Note that applications for assessment (exams) must be confirmed two weeks prior to the exam date.

PerthTech 2025 Postponed



The organisers regret to advise that staging of PerthTech in 2025 simply was not possible. My dance card was full, what with selling and buying a house, and moving to another city, I was not able to dedicate the right amount of time and energy in order to do it properly.

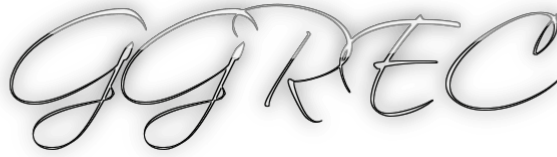
I **W.A. Amateur Radio News** apologise for any inconvenience or disappointment this may have caused.

If you would like to be part of the organising team for PerthTech 2026, [contact me](#) and let's talk about it.

Bob VK6POP President, WA Amateur Radio News.

 QRM.guru <i>Resolving interference for Amateur Radio</i>	QRM.guru was developed to assist Radio Amateurs to deal with RF noise and interference. It is an educational and reference resource. The information provided on the pages is not unique or regarded as a new discovery. QRM.guru is a volunteer powered resource. Click on the image to visit the QRM.guru site https://qrm.guru/
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RASA Supports GGREC Hamfest



On Saturday the 5th of July the Gippsland Gate Radio & Electronics Club conducted a Hamfest Sale at Longwarry Victoria. Their first such event since pre-covid.

Longwarry is a small town about 100km due East of Melbourne, but that did not stop about 160 people from attending.

GGREC made good use of RASA's offer of free advertising of club events in QTC Magazine.

To advertise your coming event, send RASA an [email](#).

RASA was present with a table of brochures, stickers and friendly conversation about the work we are doing for Amateur Radio. Stallholders reported excellent sales on the day.

The RASA Board endeavours, as much as is practicable, to have a presence at Hamfests and other Amateur Radio events.

